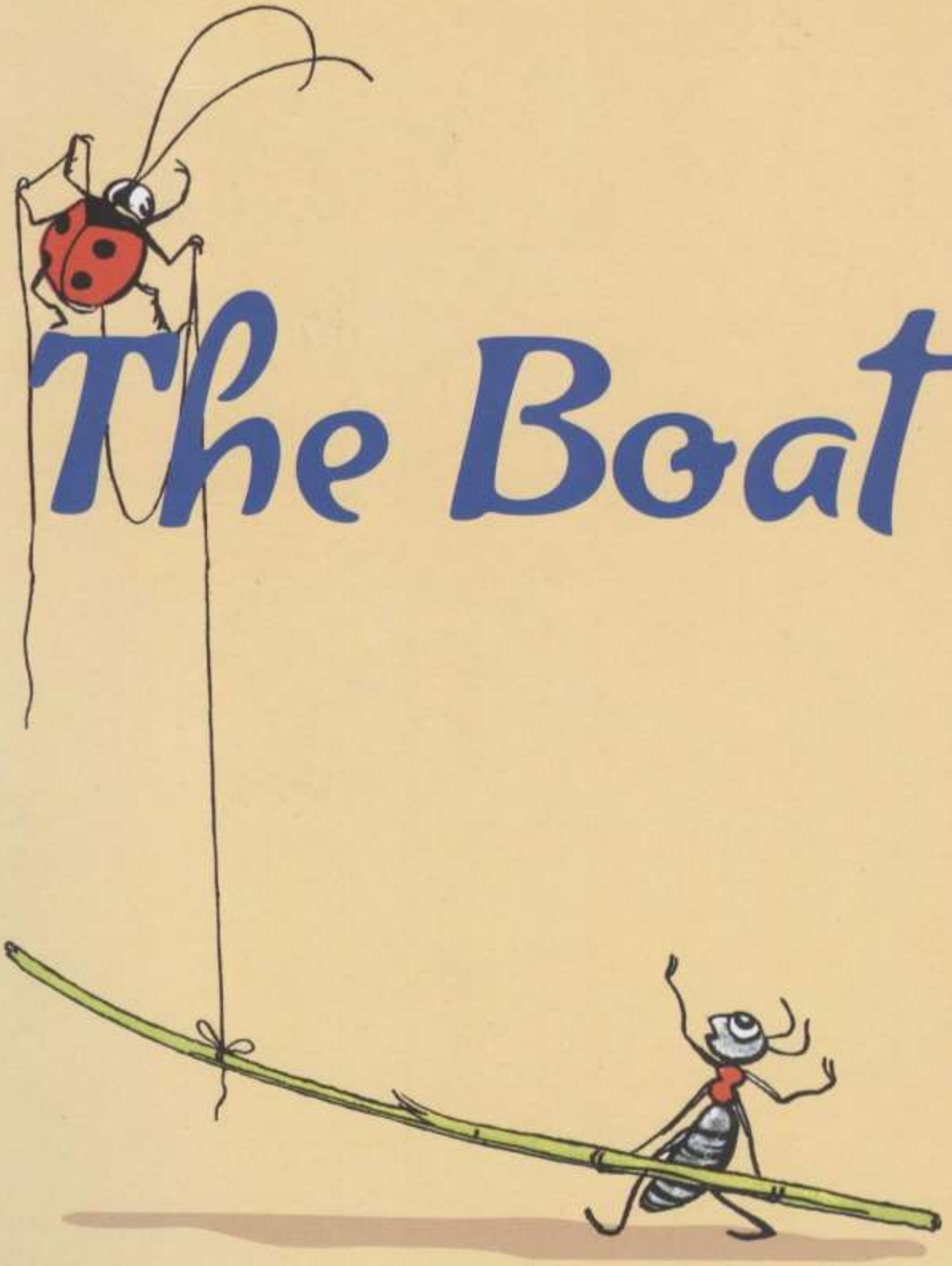
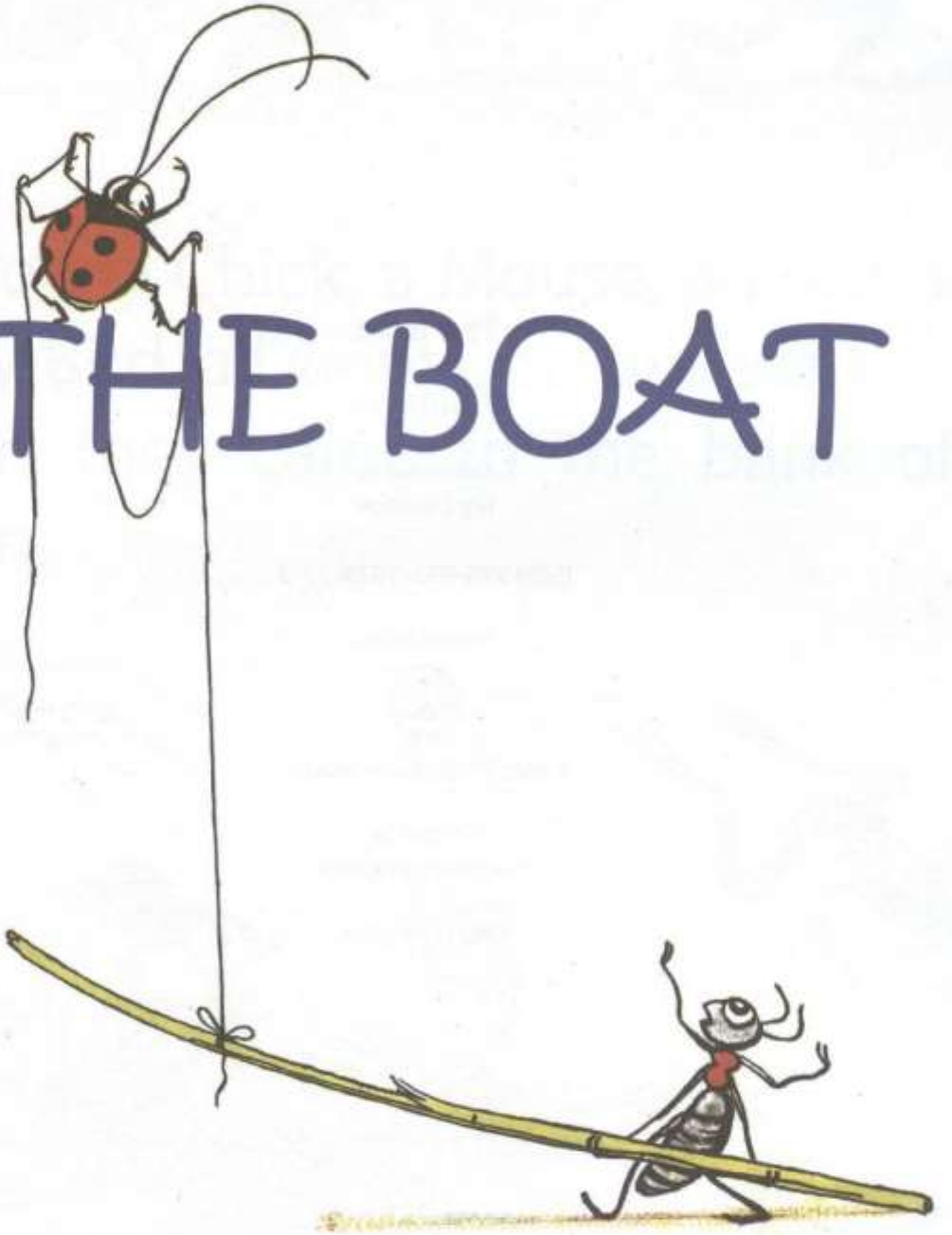
The Boat



V. Suteyev

THE BOAT



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The Boat

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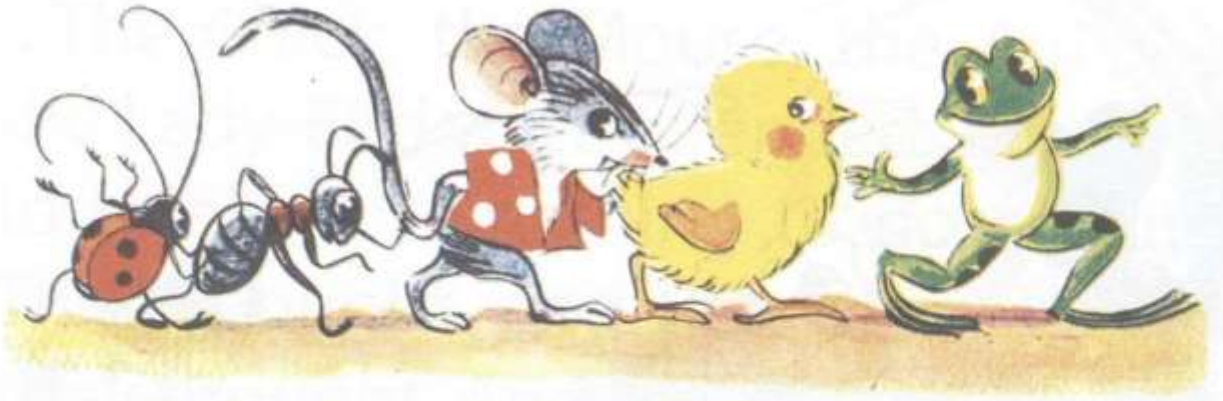


A Frog, a Chick, a Mouse, an Ant and a Lady-Bird, all went out for a walk.

Soon they came to the bank of a stream.

"Let's have a swim," said the Frog, and jumped into the water.

"But we can't swim!" called out the Chick, the Mouse, the Ant, and the Lady-Bird.

"Croak-Croak-Croak!" laughed the Frog. "What's the good of you all?"

And he laughed till he nearly choked.

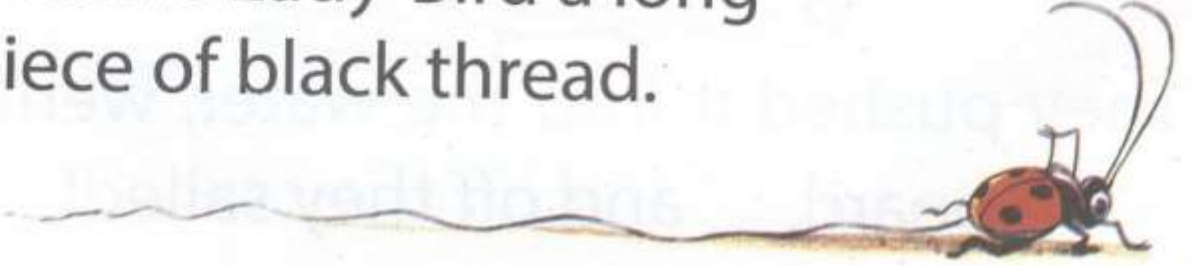
The Chick, the Mouse, the Ant, and the Lady-Bird were offended. They tried to think of something to do about it. They thought, and they thought, and they thought. And this is what they did.

The Chick went away and soon came back with a leaf.

The Mouse fetched half a walnut shell.

The Ant brought a straw,

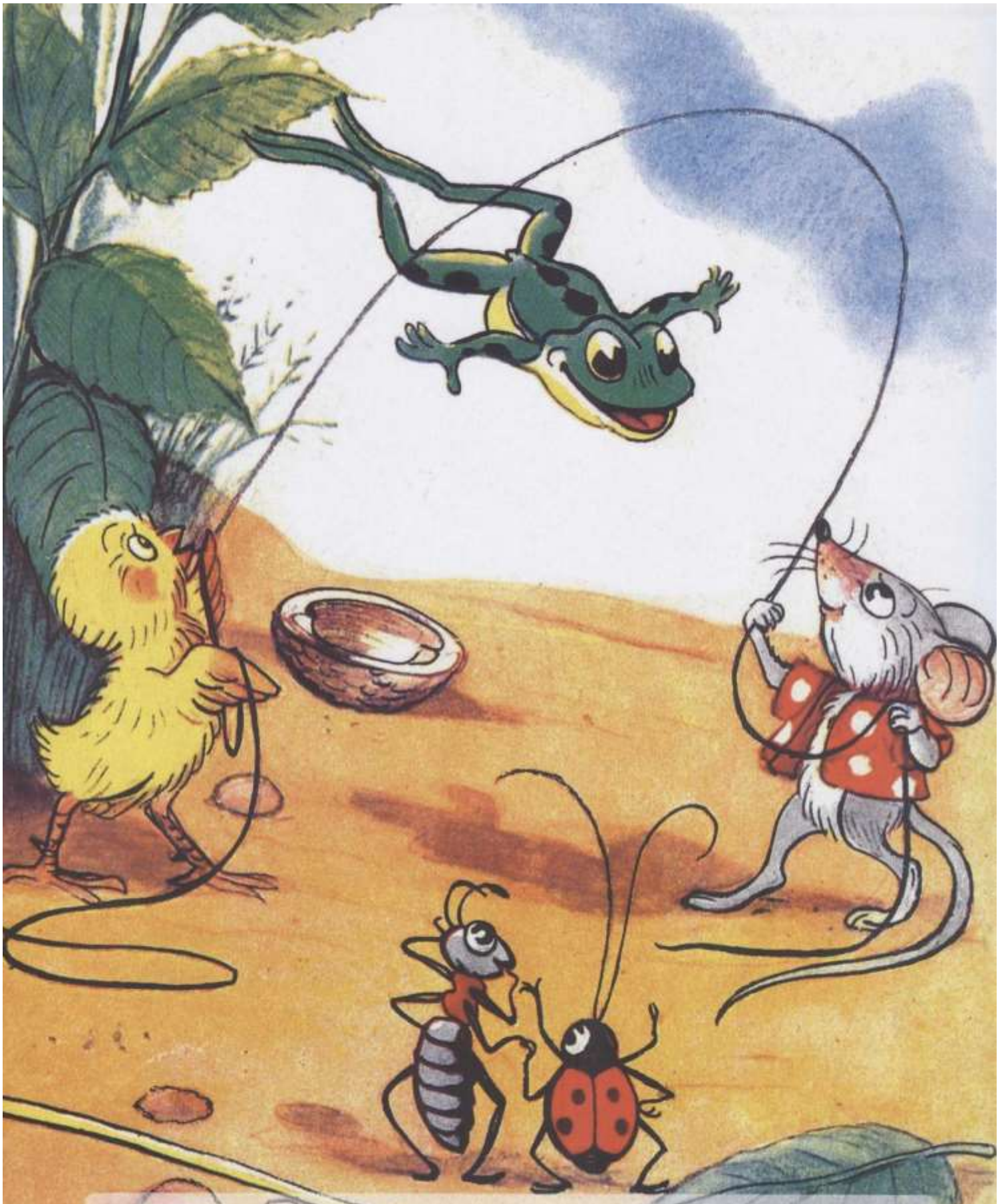
and the Lady-Bird a long piece of black thread.



Then they all set to work. They stuck the straw into the bottom of the shell, and tied the leaf to it with the thread, and in a minute they had the prettiest little sailing boat you ever saw.

They pushed it into the water, went on board, and off they sailed!

The Frog stuck its head out of the water, and was going to laugh again, but the boat was far, far away. Much too far for the Frog to catch it up.



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